

SEPTEMBER

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 8:15 p.m.

Place: Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Virginia Raymond Davidson

Subject: "THE LAST NOMADS OF EUROPE - LAPLANDERS"

Virginia Davidson is possibly the only American - man or woman - who has migrated with the Samer and their reindeer. Living in Lapland over a period of five years, Mrs. Davidson made two winter-spring migrations with a Samisk family and their herd of 1500 reindeer, and participated in an autumn reindeer round-up.

Mrs. Davidson's interest in anthropology led her to penetrate the culture of these little-known people, their background and development from a hunting-fishing people to full nomadism. This lecture, made possible by the Walter B. Scaife Foundation, is illustrated with 35mm color slides. MORRISON PLANETARIUM

Beginning September 5: "MAN AND THE STARS: The Story of Tycho Brahe". A retrospective look at the record of man's unending search to learn the nature of the Universe and the secrets of the solar system, including the concepts of Tycho Brahe, the eminent Danish astronomer, whose amazingly accurate observations preceded the development of the telescope. Adults, 75¢, Juniors, 40¢.

Performances:

Monday..... Closed

Tuesday..... 3:30 p.m. only

Wed, Thurs, Fri..... 3:30 & 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday..... 2:00, 3:30 & 8:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT OF THE MONTH: "Fossil Fish", from the Academy collections. Main Foyer, Science Museum.

Beginning September 16: "WILDLIFE PAINTINGS" by Mr. Allan Brooks. Extends through November 25. (Exhibit space undetermined at this writing)

"SCIENCE IN ACTION"

Monday nights, 7:00 p.m., KRON-TV, Channel 4. The beginning of this new series marks "Science in Action's" thirteenth year on the air with the same sponsor, Wells Fargo Bank, a national record.

September 10: "MISSILE PHOTOGRAPHY", with Guest Scientist Carl N. Brewster, Aerospace Corporation, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.

September 17: "THE FUEL CELL", with Dr. C. W. Tobias, University of California at Berkeley.

September 24: "OXYGEN THERAPY", with Harold Jolley, M.D., St. Joseph's Hospital, San Francisco.

NEWS and NOTES

The Student Section of the Academy has served as a scientific beginning for many youngsters during the years that it has been in quiet existence. A gratifying example is the case of Dr. Peter H. Raven, who, this month, joins the faculty of Stanford University as Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences.

In 1945, Dr. Raven (then a grammar-school student) came to the Section where he attracted the attention of the late Alice Eastwood, Curator of the Department of Botany. His enthusiasm and outstanding ability caused Miss Eastwood to nurture his interest in things botanical and he remained with the Section for the ten following years. Today, Dr. Raven is a recognized authority on the Evening Primrose Family (Onagraceae). He recently left a position at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Claremont, California, to join Stanford's faculty.

Over the years, Dr. Raven has presented several thousand specimens to the Academy's herbarium and various other departments. He, with John Thomas Howell and Peter Rubtsoff, is author of "A Flora of San Francisco", published in 1958.

Sunset Magazine, in its July 1962 issue, featured an article titled "The Fun of Shell Collecting", for which the Academy furnished most of the specimens for photographing. Allyn Smith, Associate Curator of the Department of Invertebrate Zoology, impressed by the specimens as photographed, arranged with the Department of Exhibits to recreate the layout with the actual shells in a case in North American Hall. Malacologists, amateur or professional, are invited to inspect this most informative and interesting display.

Your attention is invited to the 15-week elementary course in "Popular Astronomy" being offered at the Academy beginning September 11 and extending through December 18. The course deals with the solar system and the astronomical problems connected with space travel. A non-mathematical presentation, it requires no previous background in astronomy. Meeting place: The planetarium theatre. Time: Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.. Fee for the entire course: \$20.00. Registration is at the first three meetings.

The pursuit of "flat-footed" flies (Platypezidae) is both difficult and hazardous, a fact attested to strongly by Dr. Edward L. Kessel on

his return from his most recent collecting trip which took him almost to the Arctic Circle. In company with Mrs. Kessel, Dr. Kessel left the Academy on June 6 for a northern journey of some 10,000 miles which led them through Oregon, Idaho, British Columbia and northward through Canada to Alaska to a town called Circle, the most northern point in North America to which one can drive on a connecting road.

During their nine-week collecting trip, the Kessels were beset by floods, washouts, rain, mud and car troubles too numerous and varied to mention. Nonetheless, they returned to the Academy on August 11 with 1,093 specimens of Platypezidae and a wonderful sense of satisfaction in that their collecting had proved so excellent all along the way, particularly in the Yukon Territory where eight species, previously unreported from that area, were taken.

Dr. Kessel, who is Associate Curator of the Department of Entomology and Chairman of the Biology Department at the University of San Francisco, is performing his extensive research under the terms of a National Science Foundation grant awarded him last year.

Recent Scientific Publications of the California Academy of Sciences

Proceedings:

"A Preliminary Report on the Hesperidae of Baja California (Lepidoptera)". C. Don MacNeill. Vol. XXX, No. 5. July 31, 1962.

"A History of Explorations for Vertebrates on Cerralvo Island, Baja California". Richard C. Banks. Vol. XXX, No. 6. July 31, 1962.

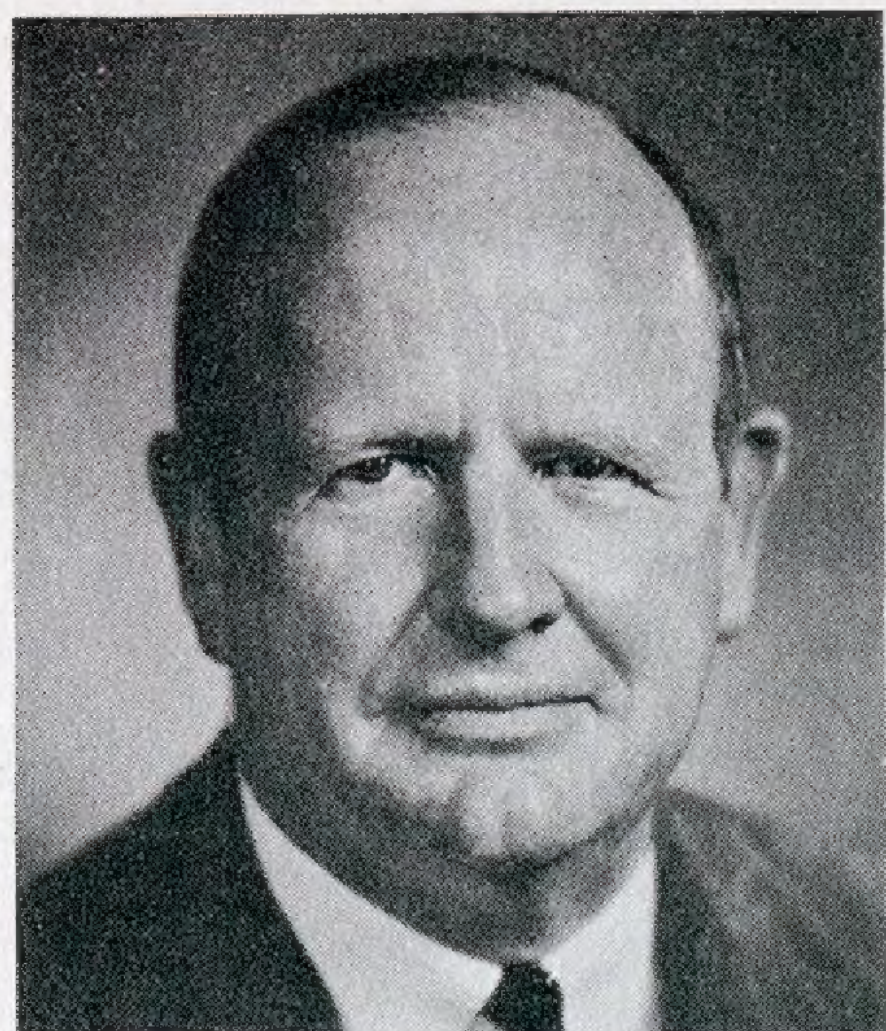
"Corals from the Galápagos and Cocos Islands". J. Wyatt Durham. Vol. XXXII, No. 2. June 29, 1962. 65¢.

"Mating Behavior and Activity-Rest Periodicity in *Protophythia californica* (Diptera: Platypezidae)". Edward L. Kessel and Berta B. Kessel. Vol. XXXII, No. 3. June 29, 1962. 50¢.

"Two Gnaphosid Spiders from Arkansas". Harriet Exline. Vol. XXXII, No. 4. June 29, 1962. 25¢.

"Distinctive 'Congrid Type' Fish Otoliths from the Lower Tertiary of the Gulf Coast (Pisces: Anguilliformes)". Don L. Frizzell and C Kurt Lamber. Vol. XXXII, No. 5. June 29, 1962. 40¢.

"The Herpetology of Nepal: A History, Check List, and Zoogeographical Analysis of the Herpetofauna". Lawrence W. Swan and Alan E. Leviton. Vol. XXXII, No. 6. June 29, 1962. \$1.25.



Meet the Trustees

BROOKS WALKER, one of two Vice-Chairmen on the Board of Trustees of the Academy, was appointed to that position in July, 1959. He was originally elected to the Board in 1954.

In Minneapolis, where he was born, the name of Walker has long been associated with public service and civic concern, his grandfather having established both the Walker Art Center and the T. B. Walker Foundation, the latter a consistent supporter of the Academy.

Mr. Walker received his B. S. in Engineering at the University of California at Berkeley. From 1932 to 1944, he was employed with the Red River Lumber Co.. In 1944, he became President of the Shasta Forest Company in San Francisco, a position he still holds. However, this is only one part of his business activities, the rest being devoted to inventions and inventing. He holds over 100 patents and has almost as large a number in the process of being presented in the Patent Office. These are, for the most part, in automotive and military fields. Currently, he is placing the accent on anti-smog devices. He is a member of the National Inventors Council which was founded prior to World War II and screens inventions of interest to the Defense Department and encourages the solution, by inventors and engineers, of Defense Department problems.

Mr. Walker served in the Army of the United States from 1942-1945 and was retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. For his distinguished contributions to the war effort, he was awarded the Army's Legion of Merit.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Walker serve the community in various capacities, Mrs. Walker's particular interest being the San Francisco Museum of Art, where she was president of the Women's Board, 1960-61.

When possible, Mr. Walker goes hunting, seeking game in various parts of the United States, Africa, Cuba and Mexico. The Academy has been the recipient of many of his collected specimens, the most recent being a case of African birds now on display in Simson African Hall, collected with Mr. Jack Bradley and Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Henderson.

He is enthusiastic about the 25-year plan for the Academy now in the process of evolution: "Here is a magnificent opportunity for everyone. It can be accomplished only by a truly concerted effort -- the Board's, the membership, the people of the City and County of San Francisco -- everyone. The Academy contributes so much and basically asks so little. To realize this great potential, we need further financial assistance. Somehow, we have to get it!"

FOR BARGAIN HUNTERS!

Now on sale at the Planetarium sales desk, eight special issues of **PACIFIC DISCOVERY** devoted to the Southwest Desert, Pacific Islands, Alaska, Australia, Thailand, New Zealand, Baja California and Hawaii. All eight issues for only one dollar, or, if by mail, \$1.25. Introduce PD to your friends through this special offer!

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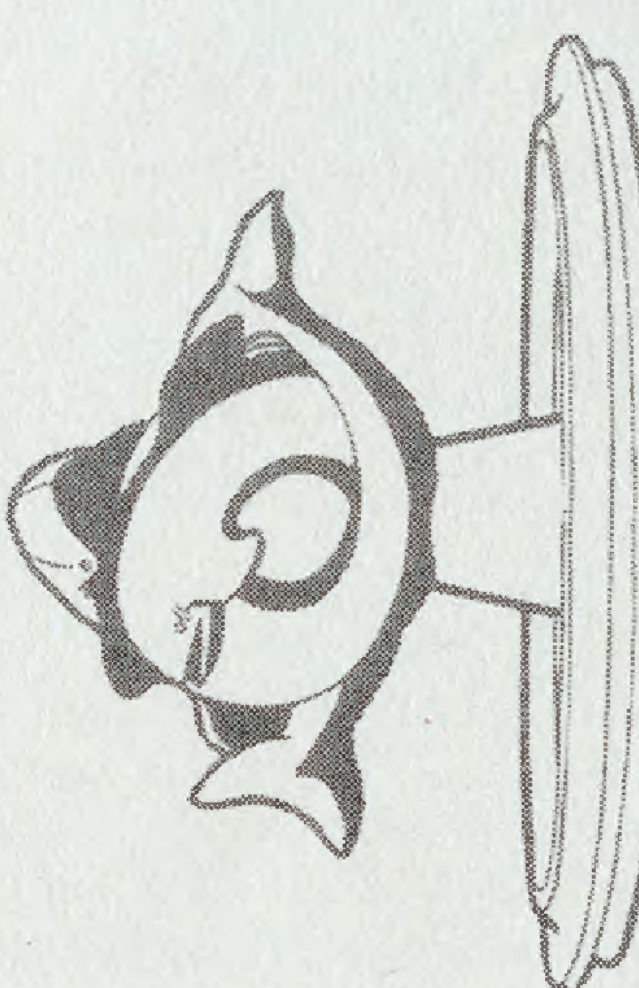
Mark Zahler

THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
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